

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S445–S476*

**Measures Introduced:** Four bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2329–2332, and S. Res. 376–380. **Pages S467–68**

**Measures Passed:**

***John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System:*** Senate passed S. 1395, to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in Delaware. **Page S471**

***Amy, Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act:*** Senate passed S. 2152, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for assistance for victims of child pornography, after agreeing to the committee amendments. **Pages S471–76**

***Authorize the Production of Records:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 379, to authorize the production of records by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. **Page S475**

***Congratulating the University of Charleston Men's Soccer Team:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 380, congratulating the University of Charleston men's soccer team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Men's Soccer Championship at Swope Soccer Village in Kansas City, Missouri. **Page S475**

**Azar Nomination—Agreement:** Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Alex Michael Azar II, of Indiana, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. **Pages S458–63**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 20), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S460**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, all post-cloture time on the nomination expire at 2:15 p.m., on Wednesday, January 24, 2018; and that Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination with no intervening action or debate. **Pages S460–63**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. **Page S463**

**James Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, following the cloture vote on the nomination of Samuel Dale Brownback, of Kansas, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Department of State, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of R.D. James, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army; and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order, and Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Samuel Dale Brownback, of Kansas, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Department of State. **Page S463**

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 84 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. EX. 19), Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years. **Pages S446–60**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 84 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 18), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S447–48**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

J. Campbell Barker, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Jeremy D. Kernodle, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Michael J. Truncale, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Wendy Vitter, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

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Messages from the House: Page S466

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Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S468–71

Additional Statements: Pages S464–65

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S471

Privileges of the Floor: Page S471

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—20) Pages S448, S459–60, S460

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 12:02 p.m. and adjourned at 6:38 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S475.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NUCLEAR POSTURE REVIEW

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee received a closed briefing on the Nuclear Posture Review from John C. Rood, Under Secretary for Policy, and General Paul J. Selva, USAF, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

### CYBER WARFIGHTING POLICY

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity concluded a closed hearing to examine cyber warfighting policy, after receiving testimony from Kenneth P. Rapuano, Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense and Global Security, Lieutenant General Richard D. Clarke, USA, Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, J5, Joint Staff, and Neill Tipton, Director, Information Sharing and Partner Engagement Directorate, Office of the Under Secretary for Intelligence, all of the Department of Defense.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations Jelena McWilliams, of Ohio, to be Chairperson of the Board of Directors, and to be a

Member of the Board of Directors, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Marvin Goodfriend, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Thomas E. Workman, of New York, to be a Member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security concluded a hearing to examine surface transportation security, focusing on addressing current and emerging threats, after receiving testimony from David P. Pekoske, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, and John V. Kelly, Acting Inspector General, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

### ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM DURING RECENT WINTER WEATHER EVENTS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the performance of the electric power system in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic during recent winter weather events, including the bomb cyclone, after receiving testimony from Kevin J. McIntyre, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Bruce J. Walker, Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, both of the Department of Energy; Charles A. Berardesco, North American Electric Reliability Corporation, Washington, D.C.; Allison Clements, goodgrid LLC, Salt Lake City, Utah; Andrew L. Ott, PJM Interconnection, LLC, Audubon, Pennsylvania; and Gordon van Welie, ISO New England, Holyoke, Massachusetts.

### PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine facing 21st century public health threats, focusing on our Nation's preparedness and response capabilities, after receiving testimony from John Dreyzehner, Tennessee Department of Health, Nashville; Tom Inglesby, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Health Security, Baltimore, Maryland; Brent MacGregor, Seqirus, Summit, New Jersey; and Steven E. Krug, Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics.